

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01377 151239Z

44

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 /013 W
----- 014629

P R 151206Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3198
INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 1377

STATE FOR CU/NEA

USIA FOR INA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, SY
SUBJ: CU-IV PROGRAM FY 75

REF: A. DAMASCUS 1161 B. DAMASCUS 1374

1. EMBASSY SUBMITS HERewith FOUR NOMINATIONS FOR IV GRANTS UNDER FY 75 PRGORAM. REF (A) OUTLINED GROUND RULES FOR NOMINATIONS. THIS CONNECTION, MINISTRIES COULD THEORETICALLY NOMINATE PERSONS OTHER THAN THOSE WE HAVE IN MIND. DEPARTMENT SHOULD, THEREFORE, CONSIDER FOLLOWING TO BE PRIMARY CANDIDATES WITH ALTERNATES, IF NAMED BY SARG, TO BE FORWARDED LATER. REALIZE THIS OUT OF ORDINARY, BUT SHOULD EMBASSY TURN DOWN A CANDIDATE WHO CONFORMS TO QUALIFICATIONS OUTLINED IN OUR NOTE, RESULTING EMBARRASSMENT WOULD THREATEN FURTHER EXCHANGE PROGRAMMING.

2. FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS IN STANDARD FORMAT.

A. (PRINCIPAL) ZUHEIR JANNAN (JAH NAHN'); DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION DAMASCUS, 1940. SYRIAN. NO PREVIOUS U.S. TRAVEL. NUMEROUS VISITS THROUGHOUT MIDDLE EAST AND EAST
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DAMASC 01377 151239Z

EUROPE. MARRIED, ONE INFANT SON. GRADUATE ENGLISH

FACULTY, DAMASCUS UNIVERSITY. ENGLISH EXCELLENT; NO INTERPRTER REQUIRED.

JANNAN IS KEY MINISTRY OFFICIAL IN REGIME'S OPEN DOOR POLICY TO WESTERN JOURNALISTS. HE IS SARG POINT OF CONTACT WITH ALL VISITING JOURNALISTS, BUT MORE IMPORTANT STRONG SUPPORTER OF RELAXATION OF THE PREVIOUS POLICE STATE STRICTURES ON FOREIGN MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES. JANNAN IS ALSO MININFO'S "LEG MAN" AND HIS RESPONSIBILITIES OFTEN EXTEND BEYOND NORMAL JOB TITLE. HE HAS ACCOMPANIED MINISTER AS PART OF DELEGATION TO ARAB JOURNALISTS CONFERENCE IN CAIRO THIS YEAR. JANNAN IS KEY FIGURE IN OUR ATTEMPT TO ACCURATELY PORTRAY U.S. MEDIA OPERATIONS AS THEY APPLY TO MIDEAST COVZRAGE; WIDE EXPOSURE TO U.S. MEDIA PICTURE FOR JANNAN WOULD GIVE SARG NEEDED INSIGHTS.
(ALTERNATE) TO BE FORWARDED IF MINISTRY NOMINATES.

B. (PRINCIPAL) KHODR SHAAR (SHA AHR'), DIRECTOR GENERAL SYRIAN RADIO AND TELEVISION, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION. SELIMINIYEH (REGION OF HAMA), 1938 (APPROX.) SYRIAN. NO PREVIOUS U.S. TRAVEL. NUMEROUS VISITS THROUGHOUT MIDDLE EAST, EAST EUROPE, ENGLAND. MARRIED, TWO PRE-TEENAGE DAUGHTERS. STILL STUDYING PART TIME DAMASCUS UNIVERSITY, DEPT. OF ENGLISH.HNINE MONTH COURSE IN ENGLISH IN U.K., 1966.O ENGLISH GOOD, NO INTERPRETER REQUIRED. SHAAR HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BAATH PARTY MOST OF ADULT LIFE, HAVING HELD VARIOUS POSITIONS INCLUDING DIRECTOR OF SYRIAN TELEVISION, DIRECTOR OF CENSORSHIP. HIS IMPORTANCE AS THE FINAL AUTHORITY ON WHAT IS SHOWN OR BROADCAST TO SYRIAN MEDIA IS OBVIOUS. IN THE CONTEXT OF SYRIAN EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE BOTH EQUIPMENT AND METHODS IN ITS MEDIA FIELDS, SHAAR'S EXPOSURE TO THE US AT THIS TIME WOULD BE OF PARTICULAR VALUE.
(ALTERNATE) TO BE ANNOUNCED IF MINISTRY NOMINATES.

C. (PRINCIPAL) MRS. ITAF MAZLOUM (MAHZ LOOM'), DIRECTOR OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DAMASC 01377 151239Z

MINISTRY OF PLANNING. JABLEH, 1930. SYRIAN. NO PREVIOUS U.S. TRAVEL. NUMEROUS VISITS TO EAST AND WEST EUROPE. MARRIED TO ARMY COLNEL. GRADUATE IN GEOGRAPHY FROM AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY, CAIRO, 1960. EXCELLENT FRENCH. POOR ENGLISH. INTERPRETER REQUIRED. MRS. MAZLOUM IS ONE OF SENIOR WOMEN IN SYRIAN GOVERNMENT, AND A KEY FIGURE IN SARG'S DESIRE TO INCREASE TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH U.S. SHE WILL BE INVOLVED IN

IMPORTANT DECISIONS ON THE OVERALL TRAINING AND MANPOWER PLANNING FOR THE NEW FIVE YEAR PLAN WHICH COULD GREATLY INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS COMING TO SYRIA AND THE NUMBER OF SYRIANS BEING TRAINED IN THE U.S. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT VITAL THAT SYRIAN OFFICIALS FROM PLANNING MINISTRY BE EXPOSED TO VAST ARRAY OF TRAINING FACILITIES IN U.S. IN MRS. MAZLOUM'S CASE, MOREOVER, A VISIT TO THE U.S. COULD PROVIDE SARG WITH A PARTICIPANT IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL WOMAN'S YEAR. (ALTERNATE) TO BE FORWARDED IF MINISTRY NOMINATES.

D. (PRINCIPAL) HAMOUD SHOEFI (SHOO' FI) DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF AMERICA, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. SALKHAD, 1938. SYRIAN. NO PREVIOUS U.S. TRAVEL. FORMER AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA. MARRIED, ONE DAUGHTER. GRADUATE IN ARABIC LITERATURE, DAMASCUS UNIVERSITY, 1959. DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION FROM DAMASCUS UNIVERSITY, 1960. EXCELLENT ENGLISH. NO INTERPRETER REQUIRED.

SHOEFI'S POSITION AS COUNTRY DIRECTOR FOR THE U.S. MAKES HIM OUR KEY CONTACT WITH SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. HIS ANALYSES OF CURRENT EVZNTS IN U.S., PARTICULARLY IN POLITICAL FIELD, GO DIRECTLY TO THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT, AND PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN DECISIONS DIRECTLY AFFECTING U.S.-SYRIAN RELATIONS. IN GENERAL HE IS WELL-INFORMED ABOUT THE U.S., BUT HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE NUANCES OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS IS INCOMPLETE. A VISIT TO THE U.S. WOULD ENABLE HIM TO SEE THIS PROCESS AT WORK, BOTH AT THE NATIONAL AND STATE LEVELS. SHOEFI HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN BAATH PARTY POLITICS BUT HAS RECENTLY REMOVED HIMSELF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 DAMASC 01377 151239Z

FROM THE FRAY. NEVERTHELESS, HE REMAINS ONE OF FEW INTELLECTUALS ON CURRENT POLITICAL SCENE, AND HIS POLITICAL FORTUNES COULD RISE AGAIN. (ALTERNATE) TO BE FORWARDED IF NOMINATED BY MINISTRY. PELLETREAU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DAMASC01377
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750131-0166
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750449/aaaabtng.tel
Line Count: 159
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DAMASCUS 1161, 75 DAMASCUS 1374
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CU-IV PROGRAM FY 75
TAGS: OEXC, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006